

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SAA-01 SSM-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 HA-05 /112 W
-----054177 161922Z /50/43

R 151041Z JUL 78 ZEL
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1505
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS CAIRO 17111

USICA FOR PGM/RC

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652:N/A
SUBJECT: ON TO LONDON

SUMMARY. PRESS DESCRIBES BEGIN AS ISOLATED AND STUBBORN.
EGYPT WILLING GRANT PEACE, SECURITY AND NORMAL RELATIONS
BUT NOT LAND OR SOVERIGNITY. SADAT PROPOSES UN, EGYPT,
ISRAEL AND UN, JORDAN, ISRAEL MEET ON GAZA AND WEST BANK
ISSUES, RESPECTIVELY. ONLY HOPE FOR LONDON PINNED TO
PRESUMED U.S. ROLE AND, TO LESSER EXTENT, WEIZMAN'S
MODERATING INFLUENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. ISOLATION. JULY 15 PRESS STRESSES ISRAELI ISOLATION
FOLLOWING SADAT CONSULTATIONS IN AUSTRIA. BEGIN SAID TO
BE UNDER INCREASED DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE.
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NEVERTHELESS, ISRAELI PREMIER VIEWED AS CONTINUING INSIST
ON PREVIOUSLY REJECTED AUTONOMY PLAN WHICH LED TO BREAK
OFF OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. SADAT. SPEAKING TO PRESS BEFORE LEAVING AUSTRIA, SADAT
REPEATED EGYPT PREPARED OFFER ISRAEL SECURITY, PEACE, AND
NORMAL RELATIONS. EGYPT REFUSES, HOWEVER, TO GIVE UP

SOVEREIGNTY OR "ANY PART OF OUR LAND." SADAT NOTED THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF PEACE AGREEMENT WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT THAN REACHING ACCORD.

3. U.N. ROLE. PRESIDENT IDENTIFIED WEST BANK/GAZA AND PALESTINIAN ISSUES AS CORE OF PROBLEM AND CALLED FOR SEPARATE MEETINGS OF UN, EGYPT AND ISRAEL ON GAZA AND UN, JORDAN AND ISRAEL ON WEST BANK. (HE DID NOT CLARIFY PROPOSAL NOR RELATE IT TO UPCOMING LONDON MEETING.) SADAT DENIED ISRAEL DEMONSTRATING FLEXIBILITY AND DESCRIBED BEGIN AS "FULL OF BITTERNESS." PRESIDENT NOTED WEIZMAN COMING TO ALEXANDRIA AFTER LONDON SESSION AND SAID HE WOULD WAIT UNTIL THEN TO SEE WHAT ISRAEL'S DEFENSE MINISTER HAS ACHIEVED.

4. HOPE? EDITORIAL WRITERS DO NOT HOLD OUT MUCH HOPE FOR SUCCESS AT LONDON. BLAME PINNED DIRECTLY ON BEGIN, WHO "WANTS EVERYTHING." ONLY POSITIVE SIGNS ARE WEIZMAN/SADAT MEETING (GUMHURIYYA TERMED WEIZMAN LIKELY SUCCESSOR TO BEGIN) AND AMERICAN ROLE. WRITING IN AKHBAR EL YOM, MAHA ABDEL FATAH SAID THERE HAS NEVER BEEN CONFERENCE CONVENED WITH SO MANY NEGATIVE FACTORS. SHE CONCLUDED, HOWEVER, THAT USG WOULD NOT GO THROUGH WITH CONFERENCE UNLESS IT HAD SOME PLAN FOR SUCCESS. EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL LEADERS, PEACE TALKS, PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAIRO17111
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780300-0584
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780757/aaaabvsp.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5ad60773-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1998188
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ON TO LONDON SUMMARY. PRESS DESCRIBES BEGIN AS ISOLATED AND STUBBORN. EGYPT WILLING GRANT PEACE, SECURITY AND NORMAL REL
TAGS: SOPN, PGOV, PDEV, EG, IS, XF, (SADAT, ANWAR), (BEGIN, MENACHEM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5ad60773-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014